

THE REMINISCENCES OF CARL
SCHURZ

pose, of well-stored minds, of unselfish patriotism,
and of the
courage of their 'convictions. But disgustingly
large was, on
the other hand, the number of small, I
ran
against—men who seemed to know no higher end
than the ad-
vantage of their party, which involved their own,
who were al-
ways nervously sniffing for the popular breeze;

most
demonstrative ebullitions of virtue consisted in
the most vio-
lent denunciations of the opposition; whose
quaked at the appearance of the slightest
to own
or their party's fortunes, and whose littlenesses
selves sometimes with involuntary frankness to the
correspondent whom they approached to beg for a
"

notice " or for the suppression of an unwelcome
They 'were by no means in all instances men of
On the "contrary, there were men of marked
and
acquirements among them. But never until
had I
how immense a moral coward a member of
Congress be. 1
remember with especial interest occasional
I had
some of my colleagues of the press in which we "
notes " about. the statesmen whose doings we
to
and discuss in our dispatches. If these statesmen
always
what that journalistic fraternity know and think of
would often bow their heads in contrite and
grateful
tion of the discretion and generosity which bury in
things that would tickle the ears of the
groundlings. It is
probably now as it was then, that there are few
in the
United States where the public men appearing on
the
stage are judged as fairly and accurately as they

are in
paper, row in Washington. I remained at the
of the *Trib-*
une office at the national capital, according to my
to
Mr. Greeley, to the end of the winter season, and
then
the chief-editorship of the Detroit *Post*, & new